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DENIES LACK OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN COMMUNIST CHINA

Rumor mongers have been spreading reports that there is no religious freedom in the liberated areas. After the liberation of Pei-ping, certainly a high-minded Christian like Dean T. C. Chao of the Yen-ching University School of Religion would not take these rumors to be true. But those who feed on rumors have their suspicions easily aroused, and dare not place faith in liberation and the vision of u new China.

But a sincere follower of Jesus may well cast aside his doubts and breathe more freely on perusing the following news item from Ohio, 28 August:

"The Far Bast secretary of the YMCA said here in a conference today that the CCP has already permitted religious freedom. Dr T'ang-mo-ssu Thomas ? quoted from clergymen previously associated with Communist governments who said they had never seen violation or lack of respect for religious liberty. According to other reports, Christians may still carry on worship as usual in Communist areas. A Far East Christian should choose between two attitudes towards Communism: (1) Fierce opposition to the Communist Party, as in Korea; and (2) living along with the Communist Party, as in China,"

"Korea" as used here means of course the Syngman Rhee government under American protection. Amyone knows that there is no liberty there except the liberty to oppose Communists. Otherwise there is the liberty to be corrupt and harm others, to rot and sink, all of which adds up to the liberty to be traitor to one a country.

As to what T'ang-mo-ssu said about living together with the Communist Party as in China, many others have said the same thing. Was not the same ides voiced by Dr Wen Yu-chang (Ueda: 4321, 2909, 8366), adviser to Chiang Kai-shek, long ago? Did not the veteran Christian leader, Wu Yao-tsung (1206, 9349, 2322) not merely "live with," but also gladly join in the Man-ching appeal for peace.

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Real Christians and those who truly live by any religion will practice the ideals set forth in the Old Testament, Isaiah 58:6, and in the New Testament, where Jesus said he had nowhere to lay his head. These sentiments will not be shared by the pudgy villainous Rishor faul no-pap.

Dostoevski makes one of his characters say that no atheist or revolutionary is so feared by the reactionaries as a Socialist who is at the same time a Christian.

Chinese Christians I If you truly believe in the church doctrine of loving others as yourselves, can you selfishly feel that you cannot "live with" the true people's government?

As Jesus said to Andrew and Peter, and an they did, cast aside your all. "Come, follow me: I will make you to be fighers of men."

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